

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

P.O. Box 419064, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9064



July 26, 2004

CSSIN LETTER: 04-18

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL INTERSTATE CASE RECONCILIATION (NICR)

Most of you are aware that DCSS is participating in a nationwide OCSE initiative to improve interstate case processing. The initiative is the National Interstate Case Reconciliation (NICR) project. From mid-May through mid-June four California local child support agencies (LCSAs) were part of a pilot project to gather metrics for processing the error/response codes from the national case matching efforts. Our pilot was successful and we gathered some excellent data that will allow us to better estimate a realistic statewide roll-out effort.

Also during this pilot, California helped determine a number of data related issues among the other participating states' data. The problems were extensive enough that the recommendation was made that a number of state level data clean-up activities should precede states communicating with states. This recommendation was accepted by OCSE and a second round of national matches will occur in early October after states have taken the time to improve their internal data quality.

Even though there will probably be a low level of interstate communications to correct errors from the matching effort until late in October, we can expect other states to begin some contacts with California LCSAs. The most likely errors to be targeted are mis-matching case numbers between the initiating and responding states. There may be some confusion for LCSA caseworkers when these communications take place. This will most likely be because the case identifier provided to the other states is not the same as that in the consortia systems as seen by the caseworkers. We are in the process of working with the consortia to make all case identifiers and their use consistent among applications.

Reason for this Transmittal

- ☐ State Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order or Settlement Change
- ☐ Clarification requested by One or More Counties
- ☒ Initiated by DCSS

Case identifiers supplied to the national level are the same as that provided to the Federal Case Registry. The case identifier supplied by California to the national level is a "constructed" case number. This construct can be viewed in the attached document. It varies slightly among the consortia systems. Essentially, it is the "core" LCSA case identifier with the county Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code added to the front and, in some cases, a suffix appended to the end of the case identifier. This is required to ensure that all case identifiers provided to the national level are unique for California.

A primary goal of the NICR is to make appropriate data in the initiating and responding states consistent. For case workers, understanding the case identifier construct used as the national level will be helpful, and in most cases will make the reconciliation easier if not obvious. Please share this information with your interstate case workers.

If there are further questions or clarifications, you can call Laura Roth, Director, El Dorado LCSA, 530-642-7363.

Sincerely,

JOAN M. OBERT
Deputy Director
Technology Services Division

California Case Number Format

California CSENet is utilized for Locate (L01) by the California Parent Locator Service (CPLS). The format for the CPLS case number, is an internally assigned 13 character numeric field. When it is populated into the CSENet Case ID, it is right justified and filled with zeroes.

The State of California Interstate Case Reconciliation (ICR) process is currently designed to remove the 3 digit FIPS prefix from the case number before sending it up to the National ICR.

California Case Number Format

Consortia/ County	1) Case number format and example as stored in your system. 2) Is the field left or right justified? 3) Is the field alpha/numeric or numeric? 4) If alpha/numeric are only numbers used?	Case ID as displayed in their system. (How does the worker see it?)	Length of OS Case number field. Alpha/Numeri c or Numeric field ?	How the OS Case ID is stored. (As received, strip off leading zeroes, etc.)	Case ID as sent to ICR	Case ID as sent to the FCR
KIDZ Butte, Imperial, Kern, Mendocino, Placer, San Joaquin, Shasta, Ventura, Yolo, Yuba	- 11 N. - Right Justified - 12345678901 - N/A	12345678901	15 A/N.	As received.	07712345678901A (3 byte county FIPS + 11 byte KIDZ case # + 1 byte suffix = "A")	07712345678901A (3 byte county FIPS + 11 byte KIDZ case # + 1 byte suffix = "A")
ARS Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange	- 10 N. - Left Justified - 0620502435 - N/A	37-620.502.435 (Includes a county number prefix, which is derived from the County FIPS. *Note – This can be changed to display the County FIPS)	16 A/N.	- Orange County: As received - LA and San Diego Counties enter a prefix: 2 character State code and a dash; FL-46G476H.	0370620502435 (Includes County FIPS prefix. Can also have an alpha at the end in the instance of multiple payees on one IV-D case.	0370620502435 (Includes County FIPS prefix. Can also have an alpha at the end in the instance of multiple payees on one IV-D case.
STAR/KIDS Fresno, Riverside, and	- 9 A/N. - Left Justified - 000123456	000123456	15 A/N	As received.	071000123456 (Includes County FIPS prefix)	071000123456 (Includes County FIPS prefix)

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San Bernardino	- Accepts letters					
STAR/KIDS Santa Barbara	- 6 A/N. - Left Justified - 123456 -Accepts letters	123456	15 A/N	As received.	089123456 (Includes County FIPS prefix)	089123456 (Includes County FIPS prefix)
CASES Remaining California Counties	- 7 N. - Right Justified - 0000001 - N/A	0000001	15 A/N	As received.	0750000001-01 (3 digit FIPS + 7 digit case # + “-” + 2 digit suffix (The suffix is used to depict multiple Payers or Payees on one IV-D case, typically positions 1-13 used, 14-15 empty)	0750000001-01 (3 digit FIPS + 7 digit case # + “-” + 2 digit suffix (The suffix is used to depict multiple Payers or Payees on one IV-D case, typically positions 1-13 used, 14-15 empty)